



NEC

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BULLETIN

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FOREWORD

BY SECRETARY GENERAL GWEDE MANTASHE

South Africa Belongs To All Who Live In It, Black and White

Comrades,

Once more we are afforded the opportunity to realise our mission, that is, to “unite all the people of South Africa, Africans in particular, for the complete liberation of the country from all forms of discrimination and national oppression”. Our task is to build a united, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous society.

We must wholeheartedly embrace our duty to work towards that goal and must reach out to all communities, even those who have historically been hostile to the ANC. We must lead all of society to embrace this vision and, in the process, isolate such elements in our country that seek to detract from this mission, whatever logic they attempt to use.

The 2010 FIFA World Cup is one vehicle towards achieving these noble goals. We must ensure that it leaves a lasting legacy for the people of South Africa and Africa as a whole. We must acknowledge the visionary and enabling role played by the African National Congress (ANC) in bringing this World Cup to our continent. This is the first World Cup to be played on the African soil and we can state with absolute clarity that without the tireless work and sacrifices of the many men and women, some who died for our liberation, this would not have happened. We must also acknowledge the role played by Africa, in particular, and the international community, in general, in isolating apartheid South Africa from participating in international sport, and football in particular. We must also appreciate the work done by the many people involved in practically and technically making this World Cup happen.

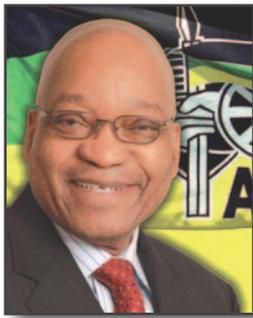


As we embark on our Imvuselelo campaign, let us make the ANC a truly mass-based and multi-class organisation it is, by ensuring that everyone of us recruits more members into our organisation. ANC members must fully understand our mission and appreciate our leadership to society and the world.

We must forge closer ties with the liberation movements and progressive forces on the continent, for the purpose of sharing experiences, protecting and preserving our heritage, and working together for the common good of the whole of Africa. If we keep our eyes on the prize, refusing to be distracted by the vanities, we will succeed.

As we join the World Cup celebrations and welcome the world, starting on June 10th, let us recall and realise the wisdom of our forebears gathered at the Congress of the People on June 26th 1955, “*We, the people, declare for our country and the world to know that, South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white*”.

The ANC leads!!!



POLITICAL OVERVIEW

BY PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA

"The World Cup must help us to deepen social cohesion and non-racialism..."

This meeting of the ANC National Executive committee takes place just 27 Days before the kick-off of the World Cup.

In 1967 FIFA took an unprecedented decision to expel South Africa from participating in international football, due to her unjust and inhumane policies of apartheid.

The hosting of the tournament is a firm reminder of the victories we have scored to get this far in our country.

It is a reminder also of the role that the international community played in the struggle against apartheid and injustice, and of the ANC's own tenacious international campaign, which led to organizations such as FIFA taking the decisions that they took.

The ANC Manifesto states that we must ensure that the 2010 FIFA World Cup leaves a proud legacy that our children and our communities will enjoy for many years to come, and contributes to the long-term development of the country.

It also says: *"The ANC government will work with all stakeholders to ensure that this world event contributes to create decent work opportunities, particularly for the youth, women and street traders; promotes procurement of local goods, services and products; and that housing units and sports facilities developed for the event are made available to local communities after the event is over"*.

We are achieving our goals with regards to the legacy that will be left for our children in terms infrastructure development, the promotion of national unity and national pride.

We must ensure that we achieve the other goals we set for ourselves as well in terms of empowerment of the designated groups.

We welcome the positive mood in the country generated by the tournament. Our country is engulfed with excitement and anticipation. The football fever is now everywhere as evident in the Bafana football jerseys, scarves and other paraphernalia.

The displays of national pride are evident. The national flag is becoming visible in the streets, shop windows, street corners and generally being carried everywhere by South Africans.

As an instrument of promoting unity and social cohesion, it is clearly going to be effective.

Our country, South Africa will never be the same again, both in terms of infrastructure and the perception of the world over.

The legacy of the World Cup for many South Africans is the infrastructure development.

The refurbishment of airports and building of a new one, King Shaka in KwaZulu-Natal, the sports facilities, stadiums, renovations and new hotels and Bed and Breakfast establishments are other benefits in terms of tourism and jobs.

As the ANC we need to ensure that other provisions in the Manifesto are met.

We must also ensure that the political meaning of the 2010 World Cup is not lost. By hosting this prestigious event, we are revisiting our history.

We must remind the nation that freedom came at a great price, and that many lost their lives so that we can live in a South Africa where we can wear the colours of the national flag with pride.

As the ANC we must mobilize our people, and use the hosting of the World Cup to inspire hope. This World Cup is a victory for the ANC.

Without the visionary leadership of the ANC, and sacrifices of the masses of our people, South Africa would not be the country it is today.

In other words, we must debunk the myth that our hosting of the World Cup is a miracle or it was brought about by good marketing only.

The political conditions that we created, working with out people, made it possible for us to host the world cup.

The World Cup tournament is a celebration of our freedom.

We must honor comrades and compatriots who can no longer be with us by hosting a successful and memorable World Cup tournament.

Many of our people fought and many died in pursuit of struggle for South Africa's rightful place in the international community of nations as an equal partner.

We are hosting this World Cup because millions of South Africans refused to be subjugated by apartheid oppressors and responded to our call to fight until they were free from bondage. We undertook a State visit to Uganda in March. As part of our programme, we visited the graves of our fallen heroes and heroines who are buried in the area called Kaweweta in that country. We have done the same in Angola, Zambia and other countries.

There are also countless graves of South Africans who are buried all over the country, who died at the hands of the police or because of the living conditions created by the apartheid government.

We must never take our freedom for granted, in whatever we do.

The World Cup must further help us to advance and deepen social cohesion and non-racialism, and as a platform to celebrate our unity in diversity.

Creating a nation out of people with diverse languages and cultural origins required of the ANC to stand above racial and ethnic bias. The ANC remains the only political formation in this country that is able to achieve this.

It is the only organisation that made it its mission to build a non-racial, non-sexist country founded on the values of human dignity and equality.

Since 1994, our country has gradually overcome racial hatred, and people now live in harmony. This, we say notwithstanding sporadic incidents that seem to attack our collective effort to build a non-racial society.

We must fight trend of trying to elevate isolated incidents into an example of racial hatred and the failure of this country to achieve cohesion and reconciliation.

Our people live in peace and harmony and have done so since 1994.

The majority of our people, both black and white, accepted the new democratic dispensation and South Africa as their home.

We must therefore remain vigilant, and never allow ourselves to be a conduit of those who may want to take our country back to the painful past of racism.

We must not allow those who can only mobilize through generating fear among our White community, in particular, to find an opportunity to sow negativity and take us backwards.

This is the time for loud and effective positive messaging from the ANC to claim victory, if we don't, nobody will claim it for us. South Africa is a success story and we must say so loud and clearly wherever we are.

The leadership of the ANC must remain a guiding light and the torch-bearer of the noble values and vision articulated in the Freedom Charter and the Constitution of South Africa.

Whatever the challenges of the moment may be, we must defend the achievements of our glorious movement, the ANC.

The ANC must mobilize the people to welcome guests with courtesy and warmth.

The success of the World Cup tournament will be a major victory and boost for the ANC.

The ANC must also promote the African element of the World Cup. We say this is an African World Cup, it must show through the manner in which we are receptive to African soccer fans, players and tourists.

We have invited all African heads of state to the World Cup, as we must practically show what we mean that it is an African World Cup.

We will spend the 20th of May in Sasolburg in the Free State in an ANC prayer meeting with Women from various denominations, uManyano, praying for a successful World Cup tournament. This is the first national ANC World Cup mobilisation event.

The leadership of the ANC must remain a guiding light and torch-bearer of the noble values and vision articulated in the Freedom Charter and the Constitution of South Africa.

Comrades, the centenary celebrations are drawing closer and sooner than we know, we will be left with only a few days to mark this monumental occasion, when this glorious movement turns 100 years old.

The ANC must use the centenary to further entrench itself as the leader of all progressive democratic forces in South Africa.

We are about to launch our one million member Imvuselelo Campaign, scheduled for the 23rd of May in Malelane, Mpumalanga

province. We must thereafter ensure that we run the biggest ever recruitment drive in the history of this movement.

Each ANC member must be an organiser. If we say each member must recruit 10 people, we are bound to have more than a million members in 2012.

We have to make our people translate their love of the ANC into membership and they will do so, once we reach them.

But we have to get the messaging right and ensure that all our structures are clear about what they should be doing.

The Imvuselelo campaign must also provide an opportunity for us to unite all our people behind the ANC.

Some comrades say the message they get from our actions at times is "unite the Africans, they vote for us, we will see about the rest as time goes on".

That cannot be right. We should learn from the loss of the Western Cape to one of the most regressive political parties in South Africa, and build an ANC that is a home for all.

The Imvuselelo campaign will add impetus to our drive to strengthen our branches and make them the centre of everything we do.

Let me remind you, also, Comrades that at the first NEC of this year we undertook to run massive campaigns around the five priorities.

We must make our branches work, we must make our people part of driving change as ANC branches. These campaigns should not be left to government alone.

As we move towards local government elections, we must take this task seriously. We cannot start campaigns on the eve of elections. We must go out and work amongst the communities.

We must engage with NGO's, churches, youth, women formations, business, workers and social clubs. We must leave no space uncommanded.

The economy

We mentioned in Parliament this week that our economy is recovering well from the recession, and also that the ANC policies are yielding results. Various research agencies indicate an improvement in the quality of life.

The Bureau for Economic Research at the University of Stellenbosch recently reported that our economic growth since 2003 has benefited many South Africans, not just a few.

The number of black consumers identified in the poorest three categories of the Living Standards Measure fell from nearly eleven million to under six million in the six years from 2003 to 2009. The standards of living are improving.

The number of black consumers in the top four categories of the Living Standard Measure grew from under one-and-a-half million to nearly four-and-a-half million.

It must be noted also that our macroeconomic projections in the Budget presented by the Minister of Finance in February expected GDP growth to rise to 2.3 per cent in 2010 and 3.6 per cent by 2012.

The estimates were probably too conservative, and might be revised upwards at some point.

While welcoming that progress, we also note that much more still needs to be done.

International Relations

A crucial meeting of five former liberation movements took place in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania from the 4th to the 5th of May, on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum summit.

The meeting began with a session for Secretaries-General and the SG will provide a report on this matter.

The Summit reminded us of the need to consolidate the party-to-party links, which we committed ourselves to do at national conferences up to Polokwane.

Throughout our respective struggles for liberation in the continent, the liberation movements understood that the national democratic revolution would not end with the formal attainment of independence or the advent of democratic rule.

We understood that this revolution would necessarily require the eradication of the social, economic and cultural legacy of colonialism and apartheid.

That is why most of us still define ourselves as national liberation movements, appreciating that the objective for which our organisations were founded still has to be achieved.

While our respective governments may interact often and cooperate at a number of levels, as liberation movements we have not worked together sufficiently on a party-to-party basis.

This is important for more than just historical reasons.

There is much we can learn from each other's experiences of economic and social development. We can also learn from each other's organisational practices and processes.

As we work towards greater regional economic integration, there is a need for like-minded organisations to work together towards a common vision and programme of implementation.

We must also accept that there are still forces within our countries and internationally who are opposed to the national democratic revolution in which we are engaged, and who wish to thwart our efforts.

As the ANC we must work with these fraternal parties in the region to confront these forces, and to advance our common progressive vision of social and economic change.

We must not demobilise the forces of liberation. On the contrary, now is the time to energise these forces and to intensify our efforts towards the achievement of a better life for all our people.

Comrades, to summarise, our mission over the next two months is to define and claim the legacy of the 2010 World Cup.

We must claim the legacy of non-racialism and all the successes of our democracy.

We must work with fraternal movements in the continent to claim the gains of the national democratic revolution in those countries.

We must not provide any space for retrogressive forces to sow division and confusion in our country and the region. We must be vocal and visible.

We must unite our people behind the ANC, strengthen and grow our membership and continue to occupy the centre stage in the life of this country as the ANC.

Chairperson,

Let me extend our hearty congratulations to the Gauteng province for a very successful conference.

We congratulate the Chairperson, Comrade Paul Mashatile and the leadership.

We wish them all the best as they work to consolidate our gains and to unite the people of Gauteng behind the ANC and its programmes.

To remind all of us of our mission going forward, let us draw inspiration from Inkosi Albert Luthuli's speech to the Congress of Democrats in 1958.

"It is often suggested, quite rightly, that democracy was developed in homogeneous communities - in Europe, possibly in Asia to an extent - in communities that were homogeneous in colour. Here in South Africa we are not a homogeneous community, not as far as race and colour are concerned nor possibly even in culture.

It is suggested that people in homogeneous communities can very well speak of democracy being shared; but in a community like ours, diverse in very many respects, you can't hope to share democracy.

But I personally believe that here in South Africa, with all our diversities of colour and race, we will show the world a new pattern for democracy.

I think there is a challenge to us in South Africa to set a new example for the world. Let us not side-step that task. What is important is that we can build a homogeneous South Africa on the basis not of colour but of human values".

I thank you Comrades!

DECISIONS OF THE NEC

The ANC has the responsibility to build a non-racial, non-sexist society

The Political Overview of the President provided clear leadership and guidance, and the NEC dedicated sufficient time discussing it, together with the summary of the Secretary General on the Overview. On the basis of these inputs and the Report of the NWC to the NEC, the following decisions were arrived at:

FIFA 2010 Soccer World Cup

The NEC noted:

- With pride, that in the few weeks time, South Africa will have the honour of hosting the biggest sporting event in the world, the 2010 FIFA World Cup.
- The FIFA World Cup will be hosted in a developing African Country for the first time in the history of FIFA and the tournament. A legacy that will probably not be repeated in our life-time.
- Without the visionary leadership of the ANC, and sacrifices of the masses of our people, South Africa would not be hosting this World Cup.
- This World Cup is therefore a celebration of our people struggles for freedom, a celebration of our international solidarity and is an honour to those who died.
- This World Cup has indeed excited our people and inspired them with a lot of hope. It has unleashed the energy and creativity of all sectors of our society.
- This soccer world cup has led to the delivery of infrastructure like the stadia, roads, airports, communication systems etc. Such infrastructure created jobs, contributed to the economy and to transformation. But above all, it boosted the morale of the nation, improved our image internationally and contributed immensely towards social cohesion and nation-building.

The NEC resolved that:

- We call on all South Africans to continue embracing this project. It is the product of our efforts and an affirmation of our freedom.
- We must remind the nation that freedom came at a great price, and that many lost their lives so that we can live in a South Africa where we can wear colours of the national flag with pride and welcome thousands of soccer loving fans, players and administrators from all over the world to this great land.
- The ANC should promote the hosting of this event by actively embarking on campaigns that will generate excitement among South Africans.
- Local Organising Committee members should not be entitled to any monetary benefits from the proceeds of the World Cup. The money should be utilized towards the development of soccer/football in the country.
- The legacy of the World Cup in general should be preserved even beyond the event itself.

Building A Non-Racial Society

The NEC reaffirmed that:

- The ANC has the responsibility of building a united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa.
- This responsibility imposes the duty on the ANC to reach out to communities that have historically not supported it, and even sections of society that have been outright hostile to the ANC. Over the last two years, the ANC stepped up its engagement with minority communities, with the Afrikaner community using this space more aggressively.
- It is becoming clear that the majority of all South Africa irrespective of race, colour or creed support and embrace the democratisation and transformation of our country for the better since 1994.
- We are therefore proud that all South Africans can hold their heads high in the new South Africa.

Organisational Matters

Western Cape Provincial Task Team (WC PTT)

The NEC noted:

- The province, albeit slow, is making progress.
- Cde Duma Ndleleni has been deployed to anchor coordination in the PTT.
- The programme for the province has been developed and both the PTT and the organizing committee are already working according to it.
- No further extension will be allowed beyond the first week of December 2010 for the existence and operations of the PTT.

Northwest Provincial Task Team (NW PTT)

The NEC noted:

- The PTT submitted a detailed report on the organisational and political work done since the last NEC meeting.

Over the last two months the capacity of the province to handle complex challenges was tested fully and comrades handled the situation extremely well:

- The programme to re-launch the branches is underway and progressing very well. Presently, hundred and twenty-one (121) out of three hundred and thirty (330) branches have held successful bi-annual general meetings. The NEC commended the comrades for the splendid work done.

- The major leadership changes effected in a number of municipalities were managed with the necessary care. There is now relative stability in the province and more focus has been on service delivery and the launching of branches.
- The province managed the tensions around the death of Eugene Terre'blanche well, particularly attempts to use the incident to revive the defunct AWB. The visible presence of the ANC leadership helped in mobilizing the bigger section of the Afrikaner community against the attempts to raise racial tensions by the AWB.
- The death of comrade Molefi Sefularo inflicted deep wounds on the province. The decent send-off given to this comrade reaffirmed the ANC as a caring organisation.

Preparations for the National General Council

The NEC noted:

The preparations undertaken by its subcommittees, through reports submitted, for the National General Council (NGC).

- Whilst the NEC expressed its happiness with the thorough preparations for the NGC, it none-the-less directed all the subcommittees to step up their work.
- The next meeting of the NEC will focus extensively on preparations for the NGC.

Preparations For The Alliance Summit

The NEC has accepted the proposal of the Alliance Secretariat that:

- The Alliance must have a fully-fledged Alliance Summit that will entertain issues of policy, the character of the alliance and local government election.
- The alliance Secretariat will meet on the 03 June 2010, to take forward the preparations for the summit.
- The Alliance ten-aside will meet on the 08 June 2010 to further interact with the work of the summit.
- The summit will be held after the World Cup.

ANC Centenary Celebrations

The NEC received a report on progress made by the Centenary Task Team (CTT).

- The work of the team is underway and growing. Its subcommittees are beginning to develop a clearer sense of their work, with progress emerging in the subcommittees.
- The CTT held a successful national workshop on February 19th 2010.
- In line with the January 8th 2010 Statement, and following the proposal by provinces at the national workshop, the CTT has conducted workshops in eight provinces with the purpose of (a) consolidating the work done at the national workshop and, (b) establishing provincial centenary structures.
- Provinces that were visited and have now established Provincial Centenary Task Teams (PCTT's) and subcommittees are: Free State, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu Natal, Eastern Cape, Limpopo and the Northern Cape. Although the Western Cape has been visited, it has not established its PCTT. The North West PCTT's launch is scheduled for April 24 to the end of May in order to coincide with the Provincial Working Committee (PWC). Gauteng has not been visited as yet.
- The National Centenary Task Team (NCTT) used opportunities presented by the visits of the President, the Secretary General and the National Chairperson to inform the African Union, the Cuban Communist Party and other old friends of the ANC about the centenary, in keeping with our decision to make it a South African, African and global process.

- Despite the challenges, the NEC is encouraged by the work that is unfolding in both the Task Teams, its subcommittees and in the provinces.

Educational Exchange Trips With The Chinese Communist Party

- The NEC received a report on the NEC Study Tour, led by Cde Cyril Ramaphosa to the Communist Party of China (CPC) from the 22 November- 5 December 2009.
- The tour was the first outcome of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the ANC and CPC on Exchange and Cooperation in 2007, following President Zuma's visit there.
- The next educational trip to China is scheduled to take place in July 26 to August 08th 2010, and twenty-three NEC members led by the National Chairperson, Cde Baleka Mbete.
- We can learn more on the Chinese Communist Party around their Planning model and also their political education model.

Cuba Visit

- A six-member delegation, led by the ANC Secretary General, Gwede Mantashe, visited Cuba during the period March 19th –25th 2010.
- The Communist Party of Cuba has a high regard for the ANC and treats our relations with the necessary seriousness. The ANC has learnt that the pride with which Cuban people have about their history and the revolution is something we could learn from.
- The Cubans have done tremendous work in erecting monuments that capture and preserve the history of the Cuban revolution and celebrate the role of the heroes of the revolution. This is something that the ANC must learn from so that generations to come can treasure our history and heritage.

The NEC reaffirms that:

- It will continue with its support for the release of the Cuban Five incarcerated in the US as well as the end of the US blockade of Cuba.

Meeting of the Former Liberation Movements

- Former Liberation Movements (ANC, CCM, FRELIMO, SWAPO AND ZANU PF) met in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, over two days.

The parties agreed:

- To strengthen the relationships amongst themselves
- To share experience on an ongoing basis.
- To revive contacts with organisations that supported the liberation movements during the struggle for freedom, including the Anti-apartheid movement in various countries.
- To strengthen the existing relations with China, emphasizing the need to ensure that such a relation is for mutual benefit.
- Campaign for the lifting of the Cuban blockade by the US and the release of the Cuban Five.
- To identify and preserve struggle heritage sites in the continent.
- The need for these parties to work together in ensuring self-sufficiency.

Meetings with the Leagues

The NEC resolved that:

- The ANC will have institutionalized meetings with all the Leagues on a regular basis

Building a non-sexist society

The NEC resolved to:

- Step up the work of the ANC in addressing concerns on what is seen as a backlash against women both in the movement and society as a whole.
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Gauteng Provincial Conference

The NEC congratulated the recently elected Gauteng ANC Provincial Executive Committee (PEC), led by Cde Paul Mashatile. Despite robust campaigning, the conference was not marred with controversy.

The NEC wish them all the best as they work to consolidate our gains and to unite the people of Gauteng behind the ANC and its programmes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONDOLENCES: Passing of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert and Sheena Duncan

The NEC paid tribute to the two great South Africans:

- **Sheena Duncan**, a renowned anti apartheid activist.
- **Dr Van Zyl Slabbert** a true patriot and a bridge builder.

May their souls rest in peace and we send our deepest condolences to their families and close friends.

CLOSING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA

Individuals must not elevate themselves above the organisation

Comrade Chairperson,

Let me thank the members of the National Executive Committee for their comments and contributions during the debate of the political overview, and during the meeting of this NEC in general.

I appreciate the frankness and the comradely manner in which issues were raised.

A number of points were raised which I want to touch on.

Unity and Organisational Discipline

The unity of the movement is paramount and we cannot be flexible on these principles just to accommodate one another.

At the last NEC we stated that we must avoid elevating individuals above the organisation, and individuals must not elevate themselves above the organisation. We must respect that principle, nobody is above the ANC.

I emphasised this earlier that we must be guided by the Constitution of the ANC, as well as its culture, practice and traditions at all times.

Leadership will come and go, the ANC will remain. The systems and traditions must always remain intact for future generations. We must not compromise the integrity of the organisation for short term personal gains.

We must emphasise political education and ensure that membership understands and share the values, conventions and unwritten rules of the ANC, membership at all levels.

The question of discipline is fundamental. The NEC drew a line at the last meeting and we agreed that there would be consequences for people who cross the line.

Discipline, treating each other comradely and with respect and staying true to the Constitution as well as the cultures and traditions of the movement are what we should strive for.

Let us strengthen the ANC and build it.

We agree that unity at the leadership level is critical and that any signs of disunity or public disagreement confuse branches and should be avoided at all costs.

One comrade remarked that it is rare to hear comrades attacking the opponents of the National Democratic Revolution (NDR), but find it easy to attack each other in public.

Let us remember the directive of the last NEC, that there shall be no public spats, at both leadership and membership levels. All matters must be dealt with internally.

A point was made about the possible outbreak of xenophobic attacks after the World Cup. The branches of the ANC must start working now to deal with the issue of xenophobia.

Besides the World Cup, this problem has been simmering because of the increase in the number of citizens from other countries, especially within the continent. Our branches are better placed to deal with this matter.

Public Discourse

Comrades we have achieved a lot as the ANC government. The country is a success story.

Even though there are challenges, we are improving the lives of our people.

We must therefore not allow ourselves to be influenced by those who want to convince us, the country and the world that the country is failing, that there is conflict and tensions and that the future is bleak.

We must forcefully tell our stories. We must lead the debate on issues and communicate our programmes and policies. The comrades deployed in government must begin to communicate very aggressively on the programmes of the ANC government.

Government communications must be beefed up to enable this to happen. The ANC must utilise every space in the media to put our perspective across proactively.

We must stop allowing the Opposition space to spread negativity about our country.

Issues such as land distribution, property rights, health, education, policing and others still require our urgent attention. We must also pronounce clearly on these matters to avoid confusion with regards to our position as the ANC.

We must pronounce on the 2010 World Cup as the ANC, it should not be just government. The ANC must be part of people's lives in the sports fields, churches, social clubs and everywhere.

The ANC in Parliament

We need to sharpen and strengthen our parliamentary work. The ANC as the majority party in parliament must defend the gains of our struggle and of the democratic state.

Our deployed cadres in Parliament need to be vigilant and not open the ANC up to attacks some of which can actually threaten state security.

We must be vigilant against forces that have been rejected by our people through democratic processes, which now want to use parliament as the platform to reverse our achievements.

We cannot be bulldozed by the Opposition into taking positions that are detrimental to the ANC and which furthers the agenda of the Opposition.

While respecting the separation of powers, we should also ensure that the executive is able to protect sensitive information in the interest of national security.

We need to be vigilant and deal with such issues effectively.

Membership and Campaigns

There is no ANC without membership, and membership must grow both in form and content.

We have in the past spoken about a need to reconfigure our membership system in order to help the membership of the ANC access to cards quicker.

In few months time we are convening the National General Council to review progress since the last National Conference.

As part of our preparations towards the NGC, we must sort out the problems in our membership system.

Equally comrades, for the ANC to survive, it must exist and be visible among the people, everywhere they are found. Therefore, programmes and campaigns are key in that interaction.

2010 World Cup campaigns: We have to become visible and use the campaign to promote unity and cohesion.

Engagement with the Leagues

The point that the leadership of the mother body and the Leagues should meet regularly is important and this should be addressed.

Most of the problems can be prevented if we meet regularly and share views on policy and organisational matters.

The National Question

When we state that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, in the Freedom Charter and the Constitution we are not saying that we should pretend that there is no legacy of apartheid that we must address.

Our mission is to create a non-racial, non-sexist democratic society. But we have always known that the objective of the NDR is to liberate black people and the Africans in particular.

But we should move along together on the path of transformation. Part of the national discourse that we must lead is to educate South Africans about the imperative of socio-economic transformation in all areas, and the benefits for the country.

Any economy that excludes the majority cannot be sustainable. Black economic empowerment therefore is beneficial to all in the country, not only to the intended beneficiaries.

As the Secretary General pointed out, we have done a lot of work with minority groups especially Afrikaners as the ANC. Perhaps we should communicate these engagements more. We have done the same in government.

It is disingenuous of those communities in particular to claim that many white people feel uncertain about the future of the country as the Freedom Front has done for example.

That is why we say we must not allow the Opposition to try and take us back to the era of racial tension.

We concur with the view that working for a non-racial society and future is everybody's responsibility and not that of the ANC only.